

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BONN 13909 311401Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 BIB-01 PM-05 SP-02 SS-15
CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 ACDA-12
EB-08 COME-00 STR-07 DODE-00 L-03 AGR-01 PA-01
ICAE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 /089 W
-----023818 311411Z /44

O R 311351Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0724
INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY KIGALI
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 13909

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SWEL, EAID, US, UG
SUBJECT: SENATE EMBARGO ON UGANDAN TRADE

REFERENCE: STATE 191510

1. ON JULY 29, WE PASSED REFTEL TO FOREIGN OFFICE FOR
TRANSMISSION TO FRG EMBASSY KAMPALA.

2. THIS MORNING WE WERE GIVEN A COPY OF A CABLE FROM
THE FRG EMBASSY IN RESPONSE TO REFTEL. FULL TEXT
FOLLOWS.

BEGIN TEXT: THUS FAR UGANDA GOVERNMENT HAS NOT TAKEN
ANY MEASURES AGAINST US COMMUNITY. PRESIDENT AMIN
MERELY SAID LAST FRIDAY THAT BECAUSE OF HIS STRONG
SUPPORT FOR THE ARAB/PALESTINIAN CAUSE IN THE MIDDLE
EAST, SOME AMERICANS WERE CAMPAIGNING HARD TO BOYCOTT
UGANDA'S COFFEE. BUT WHATEVER HAPPENED, HE DECLARED,
UGANDA WOULD NOT BE AFFECTED BY SUCH CAMPAIGN, AS
FRIENDLY COUNTRIES WOULD CONTINUE TO BUY UGANDA'S
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PAGE 02 BONN 13909 311401Z

COFFEE.

AS UGANDA'S GENERAL ECONOMIC SITUATION IS LIKELY
TO DETERIORATE IT CANNOT BE RULED OUT THAT AMIN WILL
BLAME IT ON THE US-BOYCOTT ACTION.

GERMAN EMBASSY WILL WARN WARDENS TO BE ON ALERT

AND LISTEN TO VOICE OF AMERICA. WARNING WILL BE GIVEN
CHIEFLY BY TELEPHONE. SINCE NUMEROUS ROAD BLOCKS HAVE
BEEN ESTABLISHED FOLLOWING THE RECENT POWER STRUGGLE
BETWEEN IDI AMIN AND MOSES ALI, ANY ROUND TRIP ACTION
WITH EMBASSY VEHICLES WOULD APPEAR TOO SPECTACULAR AND
LIKELY TO PROVOKE RETALIATION.

IT WOULD BE APPRECIATED IF VOICE OF AMERICA WOULD
REPORT ON NEW CONGRESSIONAL INITIATIVE, ADDING THAT THE
STATE DEPARTMENT CONTINUED TO OPPOSE A GENERAL TRADE
BOYCOTT.

IN A SITUATION LIKE THE PRESENT ONE, CODED MESSAGES
AS SUGGESTED LAST JANUARY WITH THE MEANING KNOWN ONLY TO
STATE DEPARTMENT AND EMBASSY ON THE ONE HAND, AND TO THE
WARDENS ON THE OTHER, WOULD BE MOST HELPFUL.

AS THE MEMBERS OF THE US COMMUNITY TEND TO TAKE
WARNINGS ON CRITICAL WEEKS AHEAD LESS SERIOUSLY IN THE
WAKE OF NUMEROUS REPETITIONS, THE LONG TERM POLICY WITH
A VIEW TO REPLACE AMERICAN PERSONNEL IN UGANDA WITH
NATIONALS OF OTHER COUNTRIES BECOMES MORE IMPORTANT.
EMBASSY WOULD BE GRATEFUL FOR INSTRUCTION WHAT RESULTS
THE STATE DEPARTMENT'S INTERVENTIONS WITH BUSINESS
COMPANIES (E.G. CALTEKS) AND WITH THE CONGREGATIONS IN
ROME HAVE ACHIEVED. IS SUPPORTING ACTION IN UGANDA
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PAGE 03 BONN 13909 311401Z

REQUIRED? FROEWIS. END TEXT.
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